

IN COMMEMORATION OF 9/11

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, a dozen years after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, the scars from the heinous attack on our country remain. We continue to mourn the loss of the lives of nearly 3,000 innocent men, women and children, including more than 50 men and women from my own district, the 4th District of New Jersey.

The scars remain, obviously, in the painful void in the lives of the families who have sought in vain to make sense of their tragic loss. And the scars remain embedded in the fabric of our society, which has had to learn to cope with the reality of a world where indiscriminate, vicious attacks on human life are a constant threat.

While recognizing the extraordinary efforts and courage of America's first responders—the firefighters, police officers, and other emergency response personnel, the heroes—it was also apparent from the terrorist attacks that our Nation had much to learn. We had to craft policies to better protect our people.

While progress has been made—we are safer, but still not safe—some lessons have still not been effectively learned by some in our government. One year ago today, unfortunately—on the very anniversary of the original 9/11 tragedy—we lost four Americans in a sustained attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, including the U.S. ambassador to that country.

I was one of those, among so many others, who advocated early and consistently for a commission to chronicle the facts, missteps, and opportunities lost leading up to the original 9/11 tragedy and to develop a well-informed, thoughtful strategy to reduce the risk of an attack. The 9/11 Commission—that was chaired so ably by Governor Tom Kean, the former Governor of New Jersey, and former chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee, Lee Hamilton—issued an historic, incisive report, a comprehensive report which, together with subsequent legislation, was thoroughly examined by House and Senate committees.

Virtually all of the recommendations were enacted into law. The whole thrust, post 9/11, has been to mitigate and, God willing, prevent such a tragedy from ever occurring again on our homeland. We have largely succeeded as several terrorist bomb plots have been prevented, except for the dreadful bombing at this year's Boston Marathon on April 15. Still, the perpetrators of that attack have been captured—one is now deceased fatally wounded in a shoot out with police and the other arrested and facing trial for his part in the bombing.

I wish I could say the Benghazi murderers of the four Americans have met swift justice, but one year later, no one has been arrested, there are no credible leads on the perpetrators, and those deemed by the subsequent Accountability Review Board (ARB) report to be at fault received months of paid leave and are now back at work at the State Department. Then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton claimed to be responsible, but even though she was directly involved in decisions made

during the hours of attacks on the Americans in Benghazi, the ARB didn't even question her and never explained why. A year later, we still don't know who gave the order to our military to stand down from rescue operations while there presumably was still time to save the four Americans who died. Despite House and Senate hearings on the matter, a shroud of silence has descended to withhold the answers to the mysteries still surrounding the events of one year ago today.

Our enemies are constantly searching for our vulnerabilities, and our ability to remain ahead of them is critical to our very survival. However, when Americans lose their lives and no one is culpable for their deaths, our safety in the homeland or abroad cannot be assured. Our enemies must know that justice will surely find them, and our officials must be certain that unjustifiable errors in judgment are not without cost.

This is a very solemn day for America. There are now two tragedies associated with this day, and the most recent one remains painfully unresolved.

**HONORING NEW HOPE BAPTIST CHURCH****HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 11, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor New Hope Baptist Church Jackson, Mississippi.

On April 13, 1913 Reverend Cassie organized New Hope Baptist Church along with seven members in the home of Mrs. Ida Taylor of Whitfield Mills Road, Jackson, Mississippi. Reverend Spencer Taylor succeeded Pastor Cassie in 1914 and served the growing congregation as pastor for ten years. The church relocated to the corner of Holmes and Spring Streets when Reverend Nick Bradley was called to pastor. During Reverend Bradley's administration, the church moved to Whitfield Mills Road.

Following Reverend Bradley's death in 1924, his son, Reverend E. M. H. Bradley, was called to pastor and served until his death in 1944.

Reverend G.C. Hunte became the fifth pastor of New Hope Church in 1944. Under his leadership, the church began its first financial drive with a goal of securing funds to build a new facility. Construction began in 1950 on Whitfield Mills Road. On May 1, 1955, construction was completed and the congregation moved to its new facility at 2355 Whitfield Mills Road. Reverend Hunte faithfully served the congregation until his death in 1973. In addition to spiritual leadership, Reverend Hunte was a good steward who, upon his death, left the church debt free.

Reverend E.C. Burns became pastor in November 1973, and served until June 1979. During his administration, the membership nearly doubled to 750; additional property was purchased; a church constitution was written; and a new order of service was implemented.

On February 1, 1980, Reverend Jerry Young began his administration as the seventh pastor of New Hope Baptist Church. Reverend Young, a dynamic and expository

preacher, lead the church in tremendous growth and opportunity for ministry and outreach. Realizing such tremendous growth, with vision and foresight, Reverend Young led the church in purchasing a new facility at 5202 Watkins Drive. The first worship service in the new facility was held in March 1981. The Deacon's Family plan, "The Shepherd's Plan," became operational.

In July 1982, the New Hope Kindergarten and Day Care Center was established with an ultimate vision of developing a Christian School. New Hope Kindergarten and Day Care Center began serving children ages 3 through 5. "A Going Church to Meet the Coming Christ," a phrase coined by Reverend Young, became the motto of the church and was indicative of the thrust of the total ministry. Membership at New Hope reached 1000 in 1983.

The first Pictorial Directory was published in 1984, and by 1985, the church celebrated the liquidation of the indebtedness of the facility during three days of praise, worship, and thanksgiving. The church held its first annual Yuletide Fellowship and began its annual Reformation Celebration. Twenty-one acres of land were purchased north of the facility in 1986. During that year, the church records were computerized. New ministries were developed in 1989 that included: Equipping, Prison, Hospital, Outreach, Youth Christian Education, and Membership. In 1989, the Kindergarten and Day Care Center became New Hope Christian School which served children ages 6 months through first grade.

Pastor Young lead the congregation in the development of a vision and mission statement for the church, "Our vision is to touch our community with the transforming power of the gospel of Jesus Christ in order that a Christian world and life view may permeate our communities." This vision guided the work of the ministry. In 1990, two ordination services were held; eleven deacons and one minister were ordained. The Laymen's Ministry was reorganized and an Administrative Staff was added. In 1991, the Discipleship Ministry was enhanced and a Money Management class was implemented. Plans for the Family Life Center were completed in 1992. Small Group Study for adults and a Children's Ministry were established in 1993.

A groundbreaking ceremony for the new Family Life Center was held in 1994. The church hired its first Youth Director and the first graduation from the elementary school that had grown to serve students through 6th grade was held in May 1994. In 1997, the Family Life Center was completed and dedicated; the elementary division of New Hope Christian School moved into the Family Life Center; the Christian Education Director became a full time staff person; and the Comforting Ministry was established. Three young men were called to the ministry and one was ordained.

In 1990, Reverend Young directed the Future Development Design Committee of the ministry to add to the present ground and facilities a plan for the inclusion of a West campus which would have a worship facility, softball/soccer fields, tennis courts, picnic area, a half mile jogging track and additional parking.

The year 2000 brought inspiration and opportunity. Ten new deacons were trained and ordained into the ministry. The first scholarship fund for high school and college graduates was established and \$5000 in scholarship

money was issued to deserving students within the ministry. Reverend Young and his family celebrated their 20th year pastoral service to the New Hope Congregation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing New Hope Baptist Church.

## SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 12, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

## MEETINGS SCHEDULED

## SEPTEMBER 16

Time to be announced

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress.

S-216

## SEPTEMBER 17

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the nominations of Ronald J. Binz, of Colorado, to be a Member of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Elizabeth M. Robinson, of Washington, to be Under Secretary of Energy, and Michael L. Connor, of New Mexico, to be Deputy Secretary of the Interior.

SD-366

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary

Subcommittee on the Constitution, Civil Rights and Human Rights

To hold hearings to examine stand your ground laws, focusing on civil rights and public safety implications of the expanded use of deadly force.

SD-226

Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe

To hold hearings to examine the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) efforts to combat human trafficking, focusing on the role and mandate of the Special Represent-

ative and Coordinator for Trafficking in Human Beings and efforts to combat modern day slavery in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe region.

SD-106

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress, S. 120, to expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women under the Merit and Needs-Based Scholarship Program, and the nominations of Kenneth R. Weinstein, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Broadcasting Board of Governors, and Evan Ryan, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for Educational and Cultural Affairs.

S-116

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

## SEPTEMBER 18

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stevan Eaton Bunnell, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel, and Suzanne Eleanor Spaulding, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary for National Protection and Programs, both of the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

10 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine implementing Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century's (MAP-21) provisions to accelerate project delivery.

SD-406

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider S. 1086, to reauthorize and improve the Child Care and Development Block Grant Act of 1990, an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress, the nominations of Richard F. Griffin, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the National Labor Relations Board, Chai Rachel Feldblum, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and Scott S. Dahl, of Virginia, to be Inspector General, Department of Labor, and any pending nominations.

SD-430

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine reevaluating the effectiveness of Federal mandatory minimum sentences.

SD-226

Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship

To hold hearings to examine closing the wealth gap, focusing on empowering

minority owned businesses to reach their full potential for growth and job creation.

SR-428A

10:30 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Housing, Transportation, and Community Development

To hold hearings to examine recovering from Superstorm Sandy, focusing on assessing the progress, continuing needs, and rebuilding strategy.

SD-538

2 p.m.

Special Committee on Aging

To hold hearings to examine older Americans, focusing on the changing face of HIV/AIDS in America.

SD-562

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Subcommittee on Economic Policy

To hold hearings to examine implementation of the "Biggert-Waters Flood Insurance Act of 2012", focusing on one year after enactment.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider an original resolution authorizing expenditures by the committee during the 113th Congress.

SR-253

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the economic costs of debt-ceiling brinkmanship.

SH-216

## SEPTEMBER 19

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Deborah Lee James, of Virginia, to be Secretary of the Air Force, Jessica Garfola Wright, of Pennsylvania, to be Under Secretary for Personnel and Readiness, and Marcel J. Lettre II, of Maryland, to be Principal Deputy Under Secretary for Intelligence, all of the Department of Defense, Frank G. Klotz, of Virginia, to be Under Secretary of Energy for Nuclear Security, and Kevin A. Ohlson, of Virginia, to be a Judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Armed Forces.

SD-G50

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine wildlife management authority within the State of Alaska under the Alaska National Interest Lands Act and the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Select Committee on Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219